

. . . typically strongly ciliate . . . , but sometimes ciliate toward the base only, very rarely not at all ciliate, otherwise glabrous or pilose along the mid nerve below or minutely pubescent toward the apex, rarely throughout" and in some "the foliage is sparsely pubescent, approaching the less pubescent specimens of *P. pubescens*"; *P. pubescens* itself is defined with "blades . . . from sparsely to conspicuously pilose on both surfaces, sometimes minutely puberulent beneath the long hairs on the upper surface" but "This species varies in the amount of pubescence. . . . The following specimens [with an enumeration] have foliage less pubescent . . . , approaching the sparsely pubescent plants of *P. ciliatifolium*"; and *P. stramineum* is assigned "blades . . . puberulent on both surfaces, rarely obscurely so, and sparsely pilose as well, or the lower surface nearly or quite glabrous except for a few long hairs mostly along the mid nerve, the margins commonly papillose-ciliate."

When *P. pubescens* with spikelets 2.1 mm. long and "sparsely pilose" and with blades "less pubescent" is compared with *P. ciliatifolium* with spikelets 2.1 mm. long, "minutely pubescent" and with blades "sparsely pubescent" what is the SPECIFIC difference? When *P. stramineum* with spikelets 2.1 mm. long, "sparsely pubescent or sometimes glabrous" and with "blades . . . nearly or quite glabrous" is compared with *P. ciliatifolium* with "spikelets . . . 2.1 mm. long . . . minutely pubescent" and with blades glabrous where shall we look for SPECIFIC characters?

The situation in *Paspalum ciliatifolium* is rather closely parallel to that in other species: *P. laeve* Michx., with essentially glabrous sheaths and blades, passing to var. *pilosum* Scribn. (*P. plenipilum* Nash), with them strongly pilose, and by numerous transitions to var. *circulare* (Nash) Stone (*P. circulare* Nash), with more rounded and slightly larger spikelets; *P. pubiflorum* Rupr., with spikelets pubescent, passing into var. *glabrum* Vasey (*P. laeviglume* Scribn.), with them glabrous; *P. floridanum* Michx., with pubescent foliage, var. *glabratum* Engelm. glabrous or nearly so, glaucous and with racemes often longer. Parallel situations in *Panicum* are very numerous.

RANGE EXTENSION IN MISSOURI FOR OPHIOGLOSSUM VULGATUM.—
In Missouri, as in many other states, *Ophioglossum vulgatum* is a rarity. Hitherto, this fern has been known in Missouri only from a

few of the lowland counties in the extreme southeastern portion of the state, namely, Bollinger, Stoddard, and Butler counties.

In the spring of 1933 the writer visited a region west of Foley, Lincoln Co., north of the Missouri River. This region is of exceptional botanical interest because of the occurrence here of a number of typical Ozarkian plants, ordinarily confined to the Ozark region south of or bordering the Missouri River, which reach their present known northeastern limit in the state.¹ In fact, this area is really a northeastern extension of the Ozarks both botanically and geographically. Sandy Creek, emptying only a few miles away into the Mississippi River, has eroded in this area a long and narrow ravine bordered by bluffs of the St. Peter sandstone of Ordovician age. The valley of the ravine harbours a varied and luxuriant growth of trees and shrubs, and bordering the banks of Sandy Creek occur numerous species common to alluvial soils and low ground, such as *Senecio glabellus*, which is here near its northern limit in the state. In these rich shaded woods along the stream in the floor of the sandstone ravine the writer discovered three plants of *Ophioglossum vulgatum*, of which two bore fertile sporophylls.

The discovery of this species in Lincoln Co. is an extension northward of approximately 150 miles over its previously known distribution in the state.—JULIAN A. STEYERMARK, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis.

THE NAME OF THE AMERICAN LOTUS

M. L. FERNALD

NELUMBO **pentapetala** (Walt.), comb. nov. *Nymphaea pentapetala* Walt. Fl. Carol. 155 (1788). *Nymph. Nelumbo* Walt. l. c., not L. (1753). *Nelumbium luteum* Willd. Sp. ii. 1259 (1799). *Nelumbium pentapetalum* (Walt.) Willd. l. c. (1799). *Nelumbo lutea* (Willd.) Pers. Syn. i. 92 (1805). *Cyamus flavicomus* Salisb. in Kon. & Sims, Ann. Bot. ii. 75 (1805). *C. pentapetalus* (Walt.) Pursh, Fl. Am. Sept. ii. 398 (1814). *C. luteus* (Willd.) Nutt. Gen. ii. 25 (1818).

Walter thought that he had specimens of two species: one, which he called *Nymphaea Nelumbo* (misidentified with the Old World species), was described

foliis peltatis undique integris, calyce quadrifido, corolla multiplici alba, loculis monospermis;

the other, differing only in number of sepals and petals, his new *Nymphaea pentapetala*, was similarly described

¹ Steyermark, J. A. *Notes on Missouri Plants*. RHODORA 35: 283-291. 1933.